

REMARKS

Claims 26-50 are pending in the present application. Claims 31, 40-50, 51, 52, 56 and 60 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 26-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101. Claims 26-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Expedia.com in view of U.S. Patent No. 5, 948,040 (DeLorme).

Regarding the rejection of Claims 26-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 under §101, Claim 26 has been amended to claim a method in a computerized system. Based on at least the foregoing amendment, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 26-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 is respectfully requested.

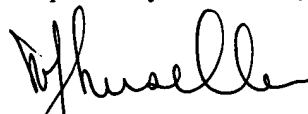
Regarding the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), on October 12, 2004 Applicants representative, Michael J. Musella, Esq., conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner. Of discussion was the concept of the “virtual suitcase”, i.e. claiming that the items to be selected are personal use items.

Regarding the rejection of independent Claim 26, Claim 26 has been amended to recite that the items provided are “personal use items”. Based on at least the foregoing amendment, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 26 is respectfully requested.

Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 27-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62, it is submitted that they overcome the prior art by virtue of their dependencies on independent Claim 26. Accordingly, it is submitted that Claims 27-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 are in condition for allowance.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, reconsideration and allowance of Claims 26-30, 32-39, 53-55, 57-59, 61 and 62 is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Musella", written over the printed name.

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